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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 20 September 1948

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Branch

SUBJECT: Estimated FDB Workload and Personnel Required to Answer Air
Intelligence Needs

1. The following report is forwarded in response to your verbal request.

2. Problem:

To determine what workload would be involved in answering anticipated Air Intelligence needs for information of foreign language publications and what personnel FDB would require to accomplish this workload.

3. Findings:

For findings and discussion please see Appendix A.

4. Conclusions:

It is concluded with reference to the problem that:

a. The workload involved would consist of: (1) fine-combing all current newspapers and many current periodicals and books; (2) detailed extracting of newspapers, periodicals and books for the period 1945 to present, and (3) research in and extraction of captured German and Japanese documents with some limited additional research in older publications in other languages.

b. Provided certain stipulated premises (Appendix A, para 1) are accepted, FDB could fulfill estimated Air Intelligence needs for information from foreign language publications if it had an addition of 87 to its present T/O to cover the USSR and/or an addition of 76 to cover Satellite areas.

(Total 163)

5. Recommendations:

It is recommended that a program of this nature, satisfying certain needs of intelligence only, not be considered entirely apart from the overall need for a well-planned and coordinated program to satisfy all intelligence needs for information from foreign publications.

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It is further recommended that, in view of the high priority and urgency of the need in this case, a list of requirements might be submitted by Air Intelligence to CIA so that, whereas nothing is being done specifically for this purpose at the present time, since no requirements has been received, considerable might be done with even present FDB staff.



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Colonel, FA.

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